TIMES-VIRGINIAN

IN THE HEART OF THE DARK TOBACCO BELT

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

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CALVIN H. ROBINSON ..... EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

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WITH OTHER EDITORS

LOVE, THE CURE

(London Sunday Chronicle)

The case of a patient who was cured of a serious skin disease when he began to forgive someone instead of hating him, was quoted by Dr. Leslie Weatherhead, of the City Temple, London, in a report on spiritual healing.

Dr. Weatherhead told delegates to the Methodist conference in Bristol the British Medical Association thought the time had come when ministers and doctors, in certain cases, could profitably work together, and added:

"In many cases of people in deep physical distress, the origin of their symptoms is not in the structure of their body or in disorders of the mind or nerves, but an emotional state.

"To change one emotional state for another is a means of curing such people.

"I could give you case after case where people in deep physical distress, whose cases have been declared incurable, have been cured when they accepted love of God and allowed it to replace hate, resentment, jealousy, fear and malice."

THE HULL PROGRAM

Winchester Star

Democratic Congressman Dingell of Michigan, ranking minority member of the House Ways and Means Committee, has announced that one of the first matters to be brought before Congress when it meets in January will be a reconsideration of the Hull Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act. Mr. Dingell proposes to eliminate from that law the hampering restrictions which the House Republicans piled upon it at the last session and to remove the time limit clause. He would let it continue as operative until repealed.

We hope Mr. Dingell succeeds in this endeavor. The merits of the program, proposed and carried into effect by Cordell Hull of Tennessee have been thoroughly demonstrated. The STAR agrees with the New York Times that "Reciprocal agreements to encourage two- way trade constitute the only tariff policy that makes sense for a creditor nation like the United States."

The Hull program is the solid foundation on which more than 40 mutually beneficial agreements with foreign nations have been based. Its soundness in our opinion has been proved. We hope it will be continued and expanded.

A WORD FOR THE BOOKSELLER

(St. Louis Post-Dispatch)

In his new novel, "The Big Fisherman," Lloyd C. Douglas has a book almost certainly headed for the best seller list. Yet if he gets there, this will be because people go out and buy the book, not because the book clubs cause it to be talked about. No book club is to push "The Big Fisherman" and the Rev. Mr. Douglas says why, in a quotation we take from the Washington Post:

"Book clubs are eating the heart right out of the bookseller business. The bookseller has to be respected and encouraged. He has something of a responsibility to the public. He has always been kind to me and here's where I have a chance to do him a good turn."

To show that he is really all out for the bookseller this time, the author of "The Robe" goes on to say that his new novel will not be serialized, condensed or sold either to the radio or the movies.

This gesture, which it is estimated will cost Mr. Douglas $300,000 is not without some little significance. It means that an established novelist is willing to dash any future he has with the book clubs in order to say what he thinks about their methods and effects on book buying and reading in this country. To a large extent the book clubs have been determining what Americans read in a way of books. Some of the selections have been very good, others have been terrible and a large number only mediocre. Many writers handle their themes with a view to winning a book club approval.

The bookseller, as Mr. Douglas says in effect, is an honorable man. He deserves the salute that comes from this one of his beneficiaries.

CONTROLLED DIABETES

New York Times

Pirandello wrote a play in which Death passed by one of his intended victims and placed a flower in his buttonhole, saying, "Keep it; I'll be back and get it a little later on." Diabetes doesn't have "pretty" name like epithelioma, but it might have been represented by Pirandello's flower. If untreated, it is sure to invite the return of the mortal enemy. Fortunately, it is one of the diseases which, when diagnosed in time, can be so adequately controlled that the person who has it may live a normal life. Recent discoveries in the field of dietary treatment have aided treatment, and new forms of insulin provide specific control agents.

BOTH OF THEM

(Christian Science Monitor)

They say it happened in Washington the day after the election. The old guard Republican asked the prominent Democrat for a nickel to call a friend. The jubilant member of the winning party turned to the G. O. P. member and handed him two coins, saying: "Here's a couple of nickels, ring up all your friends."

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U.S. Treasury Department

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

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SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:18—2:12; Mark 1:1-11; Luke 3:1-22

DEVOTIONAL READING: Isaiah 9:2-7.

The Best News

Lesson for December 19, 1948

WHAT kind of news is good? Christians always have called the heart of their religion "Good News," for that is what "Gospel" means. We do not call it "Good Resolutions" or "Good Ideas" or even "Good Ideals." Just Good News. But what is good about it? It is a fair question to ask at Christmas time, for the story that Christmas brings is the beginning of the Gospel.

Dr. Foreman

• • •

News of Peace

ONE of the best kinds of news there is is to learn that someone we thought was an enemy, is actually a friend. The end of misunderstanding, of estrangement—what a rush of warmth to the heart it brings!

That is the news of the first Christmas—that God is our friend. Christ did not come to assure men that there is a God. That was well known, indeed few doubted it. He did not even come to announce that there is but one God, for that was already known to the wiser sort of men. Neither did his coming unveil the God of justice. The Greeks and Romans, as well as the Jews, knew such a God only too well.

No wonder a Roman poet, looking about on the religions of his time, concluded that fear is the great god-maker. His notion was a mistake; but it was a natural one. For all the religions of the ancient world, even the religion of the Jew, were attempts to ward off the anger of offended gods.

The coming of Christ was to put an end to all that. This was more than a friendly gesture, it was an act of love. Those who have discovered God in Christ have found that God is 'not only our Maker but our heavenly Father and Friend. There is no better news!

• • •

News of a Gift

IT IS good news also when we hear of a legacy or gift of some sort, especially when it is something we could not have expected. And the story of Christmas is the news about God personally entering the life of man. It is God giving us himself. True, the world is full of the gifts of God.

In the Child of Bethlehem, in the Man he was to become, in the work he was to do, there was a new thing—the self-giving of God. That is one reason why Christmas means infinitely more to a Christian than to any one else.

For the non-Christian, the story of Christmas, for all its charm, is only another story of a child born to poverty, doomed to pain—another chapter in the long agony of man. For the Christian, the story of Christmas is the Good News of how God gives himself, for our sake.

• • •

News of Rescue

MANY Americans, caught in the war, starving behind electric fences for years on end, caught their first news of victory from seeing American planes roaring high overhead. No words were needed. It was news, good news, the news of rescue, of freedom.

So it is with man. Caught in the long war between good and evil, a prisoner in the enemy's country, behind the high fences of frustration, plodding heavily through the freezing mire of barren sins, man despairs of strength or freedom.

To all mankind, to each one who will listen, the Christmas story is good news of rescue. A Child is born, but more . . . "a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord."

• • •

From a Far Country

IT IS good news when from a far country, until now dark and unknown, we learn that it is a land of friends who send us welcome across the miles. So the meaning of Christmas is good news from a far land, the land beyond what we call death. "Our Saviour Jesus Christ hath abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel" (II Tim. 1:10).

As on the first Christmas, so ever since, the Gospel of God is not alone the good news of a God who loves and forgives and who brings us the victory, it is the news of God who stands at the end of our dark journey to welcome his children home.

Good news! The world has none to equal the news of Christmas.

(Copyright by the International Council of Religious Education on behalf of 32 Protestant denominations. Released by WNU Features.)

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Richard D. Robinson

FUNERAL DIRECTOR and EMBALMER

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Rocks News

Rocks, Dec. 13.- The first snow of the season fell here Thursday night.

Farmers were busy killing hogs last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Marsh, of Altavista and Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Pugh, of near Central, were visiting Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Marsh last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Williams and son, of Waynesboro were visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roach recently.

Johnny Ranson celebrated his birthday last Monday.

Emory Ranson celebrated his birthday recently.

Clarence Richardson and Herbert Goin killed a turkey last week.

Johnny Franklin, of Petersburg, spent last week with Herbert and Doc Goin.

The Home Demonstration Club held its December meeting with Mrs Mary Ranson. A demonstration was given on buffet meals. A Christmas party was also given. Two new members joined the club.

Much practice is being done on the Christmas play to be given and daughter Christmas Eve at 8:00 P. M. at the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dickerson and daughter went to Lynchburg Monday.

Mrs. Hudson Dickerson and son of Brookneal were dinner guests of Cassie Baldwin Saturday.

Mrs. C. S. Ranson and daughter went to Appomattox Saturday morning.

Mrs. Walter Ranson and Geraldine were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Dickerson one afternoon recently.

E. F. Myers is spending awhile with Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Elder.

The Sunbeams presented a very fine program at Rocks just after Sunday School last Sunday. The Lottie Moon Christmas offering was taken. It amounted to around $25.

Here's wishing the Editor and his wife and all the Times-Virginian readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Christmas Music By Bach, Handel

For a great many people the music of Bach and Handel make difficult listening — until Christmas comes around. Then, suddenly, everybody starts singing and humming tunes by the two old masters.

The reason for this is that both Bach and Handel were church musicians. One of their tasks was to compose songs for church congregations to sing. They proved themselves masters of beautiful, easily followed melodies in their Christmas music. Our most famous Christmas oratories and carols came from Bach and Handel.

"How Brightly Beams the Morning Star" was composed by Bach and his "Christmas Oratorio" contains the themes of several other popular chorales.

In almost every town and village in America this Christmas a church choir will render at least a portion of George Frederick Handel's the "Messiah." When carolers sing "Joy to the World" they'll be singing part of the "Messiah" too, for that carol comes from themes found in the great oratorio. Handel also composed the musical theme of "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks."

It is a strange fact, but both Bach and Handel were born in 1685, lived for many years within thirty miles of each other, and never met. Yet today, the Christmas music they wrote is sung by men, women and children in countless churches of many faiths all over the world.

New approach to peace in Palestine is tried.

Five persons killed as fire damages hotel in Chicago.

Some tax increase may be offered next year.

Girls Forget Fears, Thanks To 2-Way Help

What to do for woman's oldest problem, functional monthly pain? Many a girl and woman has found the answer in Cardui 2-way help. You see, Cardui may make things lots easier for you in either of two ways: (1) started 3 days before your time" and taken as directed on the label, it should help relieve functional periodic pain; (2) taken throughout the month like a tonic, it should improve your appetite, aid digestion, and thus help build up resistance for the trying days to come. Cardui is scientifically prepared, and scientifically tested. If you suffer "at those certain times", get Cardui today.

Renew your subscription.

Spout Spring

Spout Spring, Dec. 14.- H. C. Almond and family have moved in their new home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Layne were recent visitors in the home of J. W. Roberts, of Concord.

William Moon and family, of Halifax visited his parents Monday.

Recent visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Carson were Walker Walton and family. Mr and Mrs. W. J. Walton.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C Almond, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Pillow were also visitors.

Miss Irene Almond, Mrs. Ernest Smith and daughter are on the sick list this week.

C. R. Morton has been sick for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Babcock spent Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Dickerson.

Vera

Vera, Dec. 13.- Roy Chernault spent the week-end with Henry Chernault.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hamilton, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Roberson.

Miss Eunice Garrette spent the week-end with Annie Mann.

Miss Ethel Chernault spent Tuesday night with Mazie Harvey.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Chernault and Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Chernault and son, Gene were guests last Sunday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Blackwell.

Klondike Kate, At 68, Is Happy On Oregon Farm

SALEM, ORE — Klondike Kate, at 68, has settled down near busy Pacific highway, 12 miles south of here, to think back on the wild days when she dazzled bearded prospectors and earned a lasting reputation as the Belle of the Yukon.

Kate Rockwell, the daughter of a Spokane (Wash.) judge, has moved to a 12 acre farm with her third husband, W. L. Van Buren, a retired accountant. She came here from Bend, Ore., where she had operated a nursing home since she came down from the northland.

Kate and her new husband plan to build a home on their little tract, a house of simulated logs "for atmosphere only."

"We will be just as comfortable as any of these chechacos," said the lady sourdough, who once made as much as $750 a night dancing for and with eager miners, trappers and hunters in the Alaskan gold rush days.

Kate went north in 1900 in boy's clothing when she was 20 years old. She joined a vaudeville troupe and in a short while she was undisputed queen of the Yukon.

Dollar a Dance.

Sourdoughs paid a dollar a dance in those days and the girls received 25 cents of the dollar and got a cut on the drinks. The girls drank iced tea, wore high necked shirtwaists and skirts to the ground.

"They were very decorous," Kate explained.

The Yukon proved to be a bonanza for the little Spokane girl with golden hair and an Irish smile. She financed Alexander Pantages' first theater venture and performed in his first vaudeville show. Pantages became a successful west coast theater owner and producer.

It was in 1900 that the queen of the Yukon met bashful Johnny Matson, on Christmas eve. Johnny a trapper and miner, fell in love with Kate, but it took him 33 years to propose. When he did, Kate accepted.

But meantime she had met, married and divorced Floyd Warren, a handsome cowboy, after a courtship by correspondence.

Wed a Second Time.

Johnny and Kate were married in Vancouver, B. C., on July 14, 1933. After the wedding Johnny went back to his claim, 100 miles from Dawson, Yukon territory. Kate returned to Bend, where friends changed her name from Klondike Kate to Aunt Kate.

Johnny and Kate met in Dawson once a year and twice a year he wrote to her. In October, 1946, Kate became worried because Johnny's usual letter failed to arrive. She instigated a search and a trapper found the 82-year-old sourdough dead on a frozen trail seven miles from his lonely cabin.

Kate had flown to Dawson and was there when the news arrived. She returned to Bend, sad and lonely. She had known Van Buren for several years and when she was 68 the two were married in Vancouver, Wash.

They moved to their home here and settled down for a quiet life.

The call of the wild has died to a whisper as far as Kate is concerned.

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